



The **EPISCOPAL DIOCESE** of ATLANTA
Serving Middle and North Georgia

MINUTES
107th Annual Council of the Diocese of Atlanta
November 8 and 9, 2013, in Atlanta, Georgia

The 107th Annual Council met in Holy Innocents' School at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 8 and 9, 2013. The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop Diocesan, was in the chair. The Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore, the Assistant Bishop, was present. The North Atlanta Convocation was the host and held a reception for early arriving members of the Council the evening of November 7 at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Atlanta.

First Day
November 8, 2013

Registration of Lay Delegates and Clergy Members began at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Wright celebrated the Holy Eucharist in Holy Innocents' Church at 9:00 a.m. The Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, Bishop Diocesan of Washington, preached.

Call to order, quorum call, and organization for business

Bishop Wright called the Council to order at 11:35 a.m. and led prayer for the Council. The Rev. Herschel Atkinson, Secretary, announced that a quorum was present, based on registrations. He announced that four parishes were not represented at Council and that four parishes' participation is restricted by Diocesan Canon 20. The Council was organized for business.

Admission of a Lay Delegate from the Church of the Common Ground, Atlanta

On motion by the Rev. Benno Pattison, Epiphany, Atlanta, and seconded, the Council approved the admission of a Lay Delegate from the Church of the Common Ground, Atlanta.

Approval of the Minutes of the 106th Annual Council

On motion, seconded, the Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the 106th Annual Council and approved them as published on the diocesan website.

Agenda adopted

The Council adopted the agenda as printed and distributed to the Council.

Announcements and introductions

The Very Rev. Mike Tanner, Dean of the North Atlanta Convocation, and the Rev. Michael Sullivan, Rector of Holy Innocents' Church welcomed the Council. The Bishop introduced the other Council officials on the podium: the Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore, Assistant Bishop; the Rev. Herschel Atkinson, Secretary; the Rev. Timothy Graham, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. Marianne Joris, Recording Secretary; Richard Perry, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese and Council Parliamentarian; and Dispatch of Business Chair, the Very Rev. Hazel Glover, who advised the Council on handling administrative matters.

Introduction of Special Council Rule of Order

Mr. Perry moved a Special Council Rule of Order, reading as follows, that was seconded and adopted by the Council.

Regarding the Election of General Convention Deputies and Alternates

Resolved, that Deputies to be General Convention shall be ranked, e.g., C2, L1, etc., in the order in which they were elected. If more than one Deputy is elected on a single ballot, they shall be ranked by the Chief Teller in the order of the number of votes received; and be it further

Resolved, that when for Deputies to General Convention have been so elected, all remaining nominees shall be placed on a single ballot with instructions to vote for one nominee. The four nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected as Alternates and ranked by the Chief Teller in the order of votes received.

Recognitions

Bishop Wright asked first-time Lay Delegates to stand, and he asked Clergy new to the Diocese to stand.

Election of Members of the Diocesan Disciplinary Board

Bishop Wright nominated, and the Council elected, these Members of the Diocesan Disciplinary Board: The Ven. Edward Fuller, Archdeacon, for a five-year term and Ms. Jean Stafford, St. James' Macon, for a four-year term.

Election of Diocesan Officers

Bishop Wright nominated and the Council elected these Diocesan Officer for a one year term;

Chancellor: Richard Perry, Esq.

Vice Chancellor: Thomas Christopher, Esq.

Treasurer: Bennie King

Secretary: The Rev. Herschel Atkinson

Assistant Secretary: The Rev. Timothy Graham

Bishop Wright appointed members to the Committee on Memorials and Courtesy

The Rev. Sharon Hiers gave a meditation and prayer.

The Council was in recess from 12:16 p.m. to 1:26 p.m. for lunch.

The Council reconvened with a song at 1:26.p.m.

Bishop Wright recognized a couple from All Saints', Warner Robins, who were celebrating 38 years of marriage.

Bishop Wright recognized the Rev. Ricardo Bailey, Chaplain at Westminster Schools, who was received as a priest from the Roman Catholic Church on the previous day, November 7, 2013.

Introduction and referral of Resolutions

Bishop Wright called for introduction of resolutions. There were none from the floor. He referred these pre-filed resolutions to the Council Committees shown:

Constitution and Canons: C13-1, Amend Canon 9-Of the Board of Governors

Ministry: R13-1, Establish LBGT Ministry Commission

Report of Canon 20 Appeals Board

The Rev. Harriette Simmons, Chair, reported. She stated that last year eleven Parishes appealed the ten percent standard with an approved reduced amount of \$92,000, and this year four Parishes appealed with an approved reduced amount of \$22,000.

Report of Treasurer and Introduction of Draft Proposed Budget

Mr. Bennie King, Treasurer, reported on the Diocese's financial status. Mr. Stephen Burnett, Chair of Finance Committee, reported that the 2012 audit had a clean opinion. He introduced the Draft Proposed Ministry and Mission Budget for 2014. The Bishop referred the draft to the Council Finance Committee for consideration. The Council received these reports.

The Council saw a video, *Path to Shine*, about an after School program. Deacon Lesley-Ann Drake and others involved in Path To Shine program were recognized.

Bishop's address

Bishop Wright addressed the Council. View a copy of his address [here](#).

Elections

Elections were conducted at various times in the course of other business during the morning in conformance to the Council Rules of Order. The ballots were taken and counted by the Tellers. The results of each ballot are listed together here for convenience in reporting them. The Bishop appointed Mr. Karl Sachsenmaier as Chief Teller. Vergers from several parishes served as Tellers. There were no nominations from the floor; all nominees' names had been furnished the Council in writing. Will Eubanks, Marietta Convocation Youth Delegate, led the Council in prayer

First ballot taken

A ballot was taken for the following offices from among the persons shown.

Governor, Mikell Camp and Conference Center: The Rev. Albert Daviou, St. Elizabeth's, Dalton, was unopposed and was declared elected.

Standing Committee, Lay Member: Leslie Callahan III, St. Anne's, Atlanta; Charles Dale, St. Augustine's, Morrow; and Robin Schreiber, St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta.

Standing Committee, Priest Member: Scott Kidd, Resurrection, Sautee-Nacoochee, and Elizabeth Knowlton, Cathedral of St. Philip, Atlanta.

Sewanee, the University of the South, Clergy Trustee: Sharon Hiers, St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta, and Jamie Stutler, St. Clement's, Canton.

General Convention Lay Deputy: Bruce Garner, All Saints', Atlanta; Norma Givens, St. Luke's, Fort Valley; Mathew Hall, St. Aidan's, Alpharetta; Bennie King, St. Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta; Janet Patterson, St. Gregory's, Athens; Raz Schreiber, St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta; Joseph W. Smith, Trinity, Columbus, and Angela Williamson, St. Martin in the Fields, Atlanta.

General Convention Clerical Deputy: Samuel Candler, St. Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta; Daniel Dice, St. Timothy's, Decatur; Joseph Greene, Redeemer, Greensboro; Brian Jemmott, Holy Cross, Decatur; Patricia Templeton, St. Dunstan's, Atlanta; William (Mac) Thigpen, St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta; Arthur Villarreal, Christ Church, Macon, and Janice Wright, St. Peter's, Rome

Results of first ballot

Bishop Wright announced these persons had been elected to the offices shown:

General Convention Lay Deputy: (in order of numbers of votes received)

Janet Patterson, Angela Williamson, Bruce Garner, and Norma Givens

General Convention Clerical Deputy (in order of numbers of votes received)

Samuel Candler, Patricia Templeton

Standing Committee Priest Member: Elizabeth Knowlton

Sewanee, the University of the South, Clerical Trustee: Sharon Hiers

Second Ballot taken

A ballot was taken for the following elections from among the persons shown.

General Convention Clerical Deputy: Daniel Dice, Joseph Greene, Brian Jemmott, William (Mac)Thigpen, and Arthur Villarreal:

Standing Committee Lay Member: Robin Schreiber

Results of second ballot

Bishop Wright announced these persons had been elected to the offices shown.

General Convention Clerical Deputy:

William (Mac) Thigpen and Arthur Villarreal

Standing Committee Lay Member: Leslie Callahan

Third ballot taken

A ballot was taken for the election from the persons shown to the offices in compliance with the Special Rule of Order previously adopted by Council, *supra*.

General Contention Alternate Lay Deputy:

Mathew Hall, Bennie King, Raz Schreiber, and Joseph Smith

General Convention Alternate Clerical Deputy:

Daniel Dice, Joseph Greene, Brian Jemmott and Janice Wright

Results of third and final ballot

Bishop Wright announced the election of the persons shown in the order of number of votes received in conformance to the Special Rule of Order *supra*:

General Convention Alternate Lay Deputy:

Matthew Hall, Bennie King, Raz Schreiber, and Joseph Smith

General Convention Alternate Clerical Deputy

Janice Wright, Brian Jemmott, Joseph Greene, and Daniel Dice

Introduction of Deans of Convocations

Bishop Wright introduced the Priests who are Deans of the ten Convocations

Chattahoochee Valley, Allen Pruitt; *East Atlanta*, William (Mac) Thigpen; *Macon*, Harriette Simmons; *Marietta*, Robert Wood; *Mid-Atlanta*, Daniel Matthews; *North Atlanta*, Michael Tanner; *North-East Georgia*, Mary Demmler; *Northeast Metro*, Kent Branstetter; *Northwest Georgia*, Janice Wright; *Southwest Atlanta*, Hazel Glover

The Very Rev. Robert Wood gave a brief report on the Deans.

Recess for Committee meetings

The Council was in recess for Council Legislative Committee meetings from 2:42 p.m. to 3:49 p.m. The Rev. Buddy Crawford led a hymn.

Reports

Archdeacons Edward Fuller and Carole Maddox reported on the work of Deacons in the Diocese. Bishop Wright introduced a video on Hispanic Ministries. The Rev. Isaias Rodriguez addressed the Council about Hispanic Ministries.

The Rev. John Sewak Ray led a closing meditation.

Bishop Wright adjourned the Council at 4:25 p.m. until 9:00 a.m., November 9, 2013.

Second day

November 9, 2013

Bishop Wright convened the Council at 9:00 a.m. The Rev. Brian Jemmott led the Council in song.

Bible study and address by Bishop Budde

Carole Ferguson, Northeast Metro Convocation Youth Delegate, read a lesson from Luke 10:1-4. The Council engaged in Bible study for 45 minutes. Bishop Budde addressed the Council regarding this Scripture and prayed for the Council.

Mrs. Suzie Whitmore addressed the Council on behalf of clergy spouses.

Two representatives of Kids for Peace addressed the Council.

Legislative committee reports

Constitution and Canons. Richard Perry, Chair, reported on Resolution C13-1, reading as follows:

C13-1 Amend Canon 9-Board of Governor of Appleton ...

Resolved that Canon 9- Of the Board of Governors of Appleton Family Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta be amended to read as follows:

CANON 9 -*Of the Board of Governors of Appleton Episcopal Ministries*

Section 1. ~~The Appleton Family Episcopal Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta shall be under the direction and control of a Board to be known as the Board of Governors of The Appleton Family Episcopal Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta.~~ *Appleton Episcopal Ministries shall be a ministry of the Macon Convocation and the Diocese of Atlanta. The purpose of Appleton Episcopal Ministries is to share God's love by promoting health, education, and safety of underserved children and families in central Georgia.*

Section 2. The Board of Governors shall consist of the following:

(a). The diocesan Bishop, The Bishop Coadjutor, the Bishop Suffragan, Assistant Bishop, or the Bishop's representative shall be a member of the Board, having voice, but not vote; and

(b). ~~Two elected at the annual Diocesan Council.~~ *One representative (lay or clergy) from each parish of the Macon Convocation, with the intention that any three clergy from the Macon Convocation will serve. The three clergy members of Appleton Episcopal Ministry's Board of Governors shall be selected by the Macon Convocation's Clericus.*

(c). ~~Two selected by the Episcopal Church Women; and~~

(d). ~~Two to be appointed by the Bishop.~~

Section 3. All members of the Board shall have a term of three years, and shall be eligible for successive terms. No member shall serve more than two successive terms.

Section 4. Vacancies occurring on the Board may be filled for the unexpired term by the Board with the approval of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese.

Section 5. The Board of Governors shall have the authority to adopt by-laws and organize itself in whatever manner it deems desirable for the efficient and effective conduct of this ministry consistent with the canons and constitution of the Diocese.

Section 6. The Board of Governors shall hold at least four meetings each year, one in each calendar quarter, and at such other times as deemed necessary by the Bishop and/or the Chair.

Section 7. The person who chairs the Board shall be appointed by the Bishop from among the Board's membership, and shall be responsible to see that report is made to the Annual Diocesan Council accounting for the stewardship and effective conduct of this ministry.

Mr. Perry moved a Committee amendment to strike the language of Section 2(b) *in toto* and insert in place thereof the following language:

One representative from each Parish of the Macon Convocation, no more than three of whom shall be clerics selected by the Macon Convocation's Clericus.

Motion carried
Amendment adopted

Mr. Perry moved adoption of R13-1a with amendment

Motion carried
Resolution C13-1a adopted with amendment

Final text of Resolution C13-a reads as follows

CANON 9 -Of the Board of Governors of Appleton Episcopal Ministries

Section 1. Appleton Episcopal Ministries of the Diocese of Atlanta shall be under the direction and control of a Board to be known as the Board of Governors of Appleton Episcopal Ministries. Appleton Episcopal Ministries shall be a ministry of the Macon Convocation and the Diocese of Atlanta. The purpose of Appleton Episcopal Ministries is to share God’s love by promoting health, education, and safety of underserved children and families in central Georgia.

Section 2. The Board of Governors shall consist of the following:

- (a). The diocesan Bishop, the Bishop Coadjutor, the Bishop Suffragan, Assistant Bishop, or the Bishop’s representative, shall be a member of the Board, having voice, but not vote; and
- (b). One representative from each parish of the Macon Convocation, no more than three of whom shall be clerics selected by the Convocation’s Clericus.

Section 3. All members of the Board shall have a term of three years, and shall be eligible for successive terms. No member shall serve more than two successive terms.

Section 4. Vacancies occurring on the Board may be filled for the unexpired term by the Board with the approval of the Ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese.

Section 5. The Board of Governors shall have the authority to adopt by-laws and organize itself in whatever manner it deems desirable for the efficient and effective conduct of this ministry consistent with the canons and constitution of the Diocese.

Section 6. The Board of Governors shall hold at least four meetings each year, one in each calendar quarter, and at such other times as deemed necessary by the Bishop and/or the Chair.

Section 7. The person who chairs the Board shall be appointed by the Bishop from among the Board’s membership, and shall be responsible to see that report is made to the Annual Diocesan Council accounting for the stewardship and effective conduct of this ministry.

Ministry: The Rev. Barry Griffin, Chair, moved the adoption of C13-1, approved by the Committee without amendment, reading as follows:

R13-1 Establish LBGT Ministry Commission

Resolved, the 107th Annual Council of the Diocese of Atlanta, meeting at Holy Innocents Church and School, Atlanta, November 8 and 9, 2013, supports our Bishop’s stated vision to “draw the circle wider” through intentional and specific outreach to the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community; and be it further

Resolved, that our diocese shall establish an LGBT Ministry Commission to coordinate ministries for and with LGBT Episcopalians, and to engage in ministry to the wider LGBT community throughout our diocese, and be it further

Resolved, that, in response to our baptismal promises to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being, the LGBT Ministry Commission shall provide resources for parishes as they explore and live into what it means to be welcoming and affirming toward LGBT persons.

Motion carried
Resolution C13-1 adopted

Finance: Mr. Stephen Burnett, Chair, reported the Committee unanimously approved the Draft Proposed Ministry and Mission Budget for 2014 and moved its adoption as the Proposed ... Budget, noting it will be considered by the Executive Board of the Diocese for approval as the final Budget.

Motion carried
Proposed Budget adopted

Ms. Clare Reed, St. Columba's, addressed the Council on Youth ministry.

Bishop Wright introduced a video by the LGBT Task Force, and after its close, asked the members of the Task Force to stand and be recognized.

The Council was in recess from 10:49 a.m. until 11:06 a.m.

The Rev. Mandy Brady led the Council in a song.

Bishop Whitmore addressed the Council and gave his perception of the Diocese from the viewpoint of Assistant Bishop.

Bishop Wright introduced the Episcopal Charities Foundation's video about The Matthew Project in Pickens County, Georgia. After its close, he asked the members of the Episcopal Charities Foundation Board and those involved in the project to stand and be recognized.

Place and date of 108th Annual Council

Mrs. Janet Patterson, Chair of Annual Council Committee, and The Very Rev. Robert Wood, Dean of Marietta Convocation, announced that the 108th Annual Council will meet in the Marietta Convention Center in Marietta, GA on Friday and Saturday, November 7 and 8, 2014

Report of Committee on Memorial and Courtesy Resolutions

The Rev. Lee Peyton moved the following resolutions that were carried:

Be it Resolved, that the 107th Council of the Diocese of Atlanta extend greetings to

The Rt. Rev. J. Neil Alexander, IX Bishop of Atlanta;

The Rt. Rev. Frank K. Allan, VIII Bishop of Atlanta, and Mrs. Elizabeth Allan;

Mrs. Mary Page Sims, widow of the Rt. Rev. Bennett J. Sims, VI Bishop of Atlanta;

The Rt. Rev. Milton Wood, retired Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of Atlanta;

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church;

The Rt. Rev. Mdimi Mhologo, Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Central Tanganyika,
our companion diocese;

The Rt. Rev. Filadelfo Olivera, Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Rio de Janeiro,
our companion diocese; and

The Rt. Rev. Victor Scantlebery, Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Ecuador Central,
our companion diocese; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we express our gratitude to the Rt. Rev. Don Wimberly for his work with our diocese this year; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we send appreciation and prayers of support to Dr. Martin and The Rev. Sandra McCann and Magi Griffin in their ministry to Central Tanganyika; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we rejoice in the Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore's continued work in our diocese and congratulate him in his new ministry with the Candler School of Theology; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we express our gratitude to the Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde for her presence and her challenge to draw the circle wider; and

Let it be further Resolved, that on this anniversary of *Kristallnacht* we remember those Jews who were attacked and lost their lives on this night 75 years ago in Nazi Germany; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we express our gratitude to the Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Tenth Bishop of Atlanta, for his leadership and vision. We pray that the Spirit of the God falls afresh on this Council; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we express our gratitude to the Dean, clergy, and people of the North Atlanta Convocation, and the clergy and staff of Holy Innocents' Church, for hosting Annual Council, along with expression of gratitude to the Chancellor and Officers of Annual Council, and

Let it be further Resolved, that we commend to ministries in other dioceses priests Donald Caron, Joseph Dunagan, Donna Gafford, Patricia Grace, Adam Greene, May Johnson Peterson, Brad Jones, Stephen McGehee, Brent Owens, Brandon Peete, Gregory Wilde, and Paul Winton; and

Let it be further Resolved, that we welcome clergy who have been transferred or received into the Diocese of Atlanta: Scott Petersen, Alan Hansen, Terri Brice, Stefanie Taylor, Thomas Pumphrey, and Ricardo Bailey; and

We also remember with prayerful gratitude for the life and witness these who have died in the past year:

The Rev. Dr. Van Bird, The Rev. Deacon Alice Fay, The Rev. George Home, The Rev. Deacon William Kirkland, The Rev. Dr. Sipo Mzimela, The Rev. Robert Oliver, the Rev. Hugie Walker, and Lay Delegates Jane Girardeau, Jim Rash and Waller Meadors, and

We also remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

Bishop Wright led prayers for the departed persons.

Bishop Wright thanked by name and title several people and agencies who contributed to the success of this Council.

Bishop Wright introduced Mr. Adam Harper, Ascension, Cartersville, who presented a video titled "Church is Not a Building".

Adjournment sine die

Bishop Wright blessed the people and adjourned the 107th Annual Council *sine die* at 11:49 a.m., November 9, 2013

The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Presiding Officer
The Rev. Herschel R. Atkinson, Secretary